

BEST AVAILABLE COPY

1. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) An isolated protein having the comprising the
~~same or substantially the same amino acid sequence as an~~ amino acid
sequence of represented by SEQ ID NO: 1, ~~SEQ ID NO: 26 or SEQ ID NO:~~
52, or a salt thereof.

2. - 13. (CANCELED)

14. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A pharmaceutical comprising the protein or
salt thereof, according to claim 1 ~~or the partial peptide thereof~~, and a
pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, excipient or diluent.

15. - 36. (CANCELED)

37. (CANCELED)

38. - 42. (CANCELED)

II. ELECTION OF CLAIMS

Applicants thank the Examiner for the thorough and clear Office Action. Applicants elect to prosecute claims of Group I (Claims 1 – 7, 14 and 37) in the present application.

The claims have been amended to be limited to a polypeptide having the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID No. 1, without prejudice to the filing of future continuing applications.

Claim 37 has been canceled without prejudice to the filing of future continuing applications. Claims 8 – 13, 15 – 36, and 38 – 42 have been canceled as directed to a non-elected invention, without prejudice to the filing of future continuing applications.

The amendments add no new matter. No amendment of inventorship is necessitated by this election or the amendments.

Early allowance of the claims is requested. Should the Examiner believe that a conference with applicants' attorney would advance prosecution of this application, he is respectfully invited to call applicants' attorney at the number below.

Respectfully submitted,

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The undersigned hereby certifies that this paper(s) is(are) being transmitted via facsimile to the Commissioner for Patents, PO Box 1450, Arlington, VA 22313-1450 on this date October 16, 2006, to the Central Fax Number 1-571-273-8300.


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